

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

September 15, 2017

Mr. Adam Silver
Commissioner
National Basketball Association
645 Fifth Avenue
New York, NY 10022

Dear Commissioner Silver,

I am writing today in support of Cleveland's efforts to host the NBA All-Star game. Cleveland is a great American city with a rich history and world-class facilities and attractions to accommodate this national sports event.

The greater Cleveland community has worked together over the years to reinvest in the city and attract and grow jobs throughout the region.

Quicken Loans Arena is a significant economic force and one of the city's premier facilities and cultural assets. It attracts more than two million patrons per year to more than 200 events. It has helped spur a resurgence of hotels, restaurants and other businesses in downtown Cleveland that have led to substantial job creation.

I am pleased that plans to upgrade "The Q" are moving forward. This project will modernize the arena and extend the life of that facility for many years.

The Q transformation effort is the latest example of the many ways the community works together to achieve remarkable results. Cleveland is a fantastic city with a profound sports history and robust public-private partnership. I am confident that, if selected, the Cleveland community will pull together in an unprecedented way to host the type of event that would make you and the NBA proud. As I am certain you are aware, Cleveland proved without a doubt it could stage significant national events when it ran a flawless and much-heralded 2016 Republican National Convention.

By having Cleveland host the NBA All-Star Game in 2020 or 2021, the NBA would be focusing international attention upon this vibrant city. There would be tens of millions of dollars in economic benefit for the city, the region and the state. And, I am certain all participating in the week-long series of events and game would enjoy their time in Cleveland and would benefit from the city's hospitality and many attractions.

I encourage you to select Cleveland as the site for the 2020 or 2021 All-Star Game.
Thank you for your consideration. Please feel free to contact me for any additional information.

All best,



Rob Portman
United States Senator